the education & research needs in agriculture and allied subjects in the North Eastern Region of the country. In Tripura, at Lembucherra, Agartala, a College of fisheries is already in existence under Central Agricultural University.

(c) and (d) do not arise.

Drought Assistance to Karnataka

1798. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the names of the places which have been affected by current drought in Karnataka and what financial assistance has been given to the State for redressal of the grievances of the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): The Government of Karnataka have informed that no places are affected by drought at present.

Corpus and Operations of Consumer Welfare Fund

1799. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount currently available with the Consumer Welfare Fund (CWF);

(b) what percentage of the available fund has been utilized during the last five years;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the ceiling on grant allocations to consumer organizations; and

(d) whether Government intend to simplify the operational procedures of the Consumer Welfare Fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) As on 31.7.2004, an amount of Rs. 75,89,09000/- is available in the Consumer Welfare Fund.

(b) Details are given in the Statement. *(See* below;

(c) No Sir.